trial Development Unit which helps industrial projects in member countries through feasibility studies, market surveys and advice on requirements and sources of technology, equipment and capital.

(b) Since the Commonwealth's role is of a promotional nature, it is difficult to quantify India's gains and contributions in these areas, stemming from its membership of the Commonwealth.

Maritime dispute in Kutch-Karachi coast between India and Pakistan

*496. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any maritime dispute in Kutch-Karachi coast between India and Pakistan in the recent past and that Pakistan took into cusody Indian trawlers and arrested our fishermen; and

(b) if so, what was the nature of the dispute and what steps Government have taken for the release of Indian fishermen and boats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Since January, 1987, several Indian fishing vessels along with their crews have been captured by Pakistan. Government have been actively taking up the question of their release with the Government of Pakistan and have succeeded in securing the release of some vessels.

Manufacture of Micro-Vax-II Computers

*497. SHRI M KADHARSHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration for the manufacture of Micro Vax-II computers in India,

(b) whether Government are aware that an improved model of computers, Micro Vax-III has been introduced by M/s Digital Equipment Corporation in the US Market;

(c) whether Government propose to accept the technology transfer for Micro Vax-II, which is being rendered obsolete by Micro Vax-III; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that Digital Equipment Corporation has introduced 3000 series of Computers which some of the Indian Magazines has reported as Micro Vax-III.

(c) and (d) The Government has approved foreign collaboration for the manufacture of Micro Vax-II series of computers in December, 1986. A new series of computers (Micro Vax 3400 and 3600) have been introduced by Digital Equipment Corporation in the US market only in September, 1987 at DECWORLD exhibition. Bulk supply of this product is yet to begin even in the US market. M/s. Digital Equipment presently does not have any immediate plan to discontinue their Micro Vax-II series of computers. Micro Vax-II, therefore, is not an absolete product. However, the Government have been informed that the Indian Joint Venture will start with the manufacture of "the state-of-the art" Micro Vax family of computers and the first product of the family to be introduced is Micro Vax-II which is Digital's most successful and current product.